

Claims

1. A method for broadcasting of a possibility to use UMTS service in a cell under control of a GERAN type radio access network having an Iu interface to a 3G core network, a radio resource management system of the radio access network comprising a first and a second message, which messages are transferred on a first broadcast control channel in said cell, and which first message has at least one spare bit, characterized in that said spare bit is used (401) for indicating, whether said cell supports an UMTS service, and in a favourable case
 - a second broadcast control channel is described (403; 405; 406) in the second message to at least Iu mobile stations, and
 - UMTS service information for Iu mobile stations is broadcast on the second broadcast control channel.
2. The method of claim 1, characterized in that said first message is System Information 3 of the GSM system.
3. The method of claim 1, characterized in that said first channel is BCCH of the GSM system and said second channel is PBCCH of the GSM system.
4. The method of claim 1, wherein the radio access network supports the UMTS-service and does not support a GPRS service, characterized in that said first message further comprises an Iu indicator field, and said second message is System Information 13alt of the GSM system and is legible only to Iu mobile stations.
5. The method of claim 1, wherein the radio access network supports both the UMTS service and a GPRS service, characterized in that said second message is System Information 13 of the GSM system.
6. A method of claim 5, wherein the second channel is available also to the GPRS service, characterized in that said message System Information 13 is legible only to Iu mobile stations and Gb mobile stations.
7. A method of claim 5, wherein the second channel is not available to the GPRS service, characterized in that a description of the second channel in the message System Information 13 is legible only to Iu mobile stations.
8. A method of claim 4, characterized in that said Iu indicator field indicates, whether normal BCCH or extended BCCH is used to transfer the second message.

*REPLACED BY
ART 34 AMDT*

9. The method of claim 1, **characterized** in that said cell is barred against UMTS operation through Iu interface by indicating with said spare bit that UMTS service is not supported in said cell.